

## Message Text

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ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 EUR-08 SS-07 NSC-06 NSCE-00 AID-01 SSO-00

ISO-00 /030 W

----- 098406

O R 240910Z APR 76

FM AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 4644

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

SECRETARY DEFENSE

CIA

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FROM CODEL PERCY

DEPT PLEASE PASS TO : CIA FOR BUSH, NADINE JACOBSEN, EXECUTIVE

ASSISTANT TO SENATORY PERCY ALSO PASS TO SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS

COMMITTEE FOR PAT HOLT

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP (PERCY, CHARLES H.)

SUBJECT: CODEL PERCY MEETING WITH VORSTER

1. CODEL REPORTS AS FOLLOWS:

2. SEN. PERCY MET VORSTER APRIL 23, ACCOMPANIED BY AMBASSADOR BOLAND.

THROUGHOUT SESSION, VORSTER'S MANNER RANGED FROM BLUNT TO

ANTAGONISTIC, OPENING WITH SOUR COMMENTS ON MY REPORTED REMARKS

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TO PRESS IN DAR, LUSAKA, AND JOHANNESBURG, PARTICULARLY ON VORSTER

TRIP TO ISRAEL AND POSSIBLE ARMS DEAL. I SAID I DID REFER TO COMMENTS IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION ON ILLEGALITY OF ANY SHIPMENT US ARMS TO SA FROM ISRAEL AND TOLD VORSTER I'D SEND VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT.

3. I REPORTED THAT NYERERE, KAUNDA, AND MACHEL HAD EACH TOLD ME THEY SEE VORSTER AS POTENTIALLY CONSTRUCTIVE INFLUENCE ON RHODDSIA. I SAID FURTHER GOOD WILL BY BLACK AFRICAN NEIGHBORS TOWARD SA WOULD RESULT FROM PROMPT ACTION ON NAMIBIA AND UNEQUIVOCAL SAG POSITION AGAINST MILITARY AID TO IAN SMITH. VORSTER REPLIED THAT NYERERE, KAUNDA, AND MACHEL HAD MORE REASON TO BE GRATEFUL TO HIM THAN PUBLIC RECORD MIGHT INDICATE. I SAID IT HIGHLY UNFORTUNATE THAT APRIL 23 CAPE TIMES CARRIED PAGE ONE STORY APRIL 23 THAT QUOTE HE (VORSTER) DENIED LONDON TIMES REPORT TO THE EFFECT THAT SOUTH AFRICA WOULD NOT GIVE ARMS TO THE SMITH GOVT...UNQUOTE. VORSTER SAID HE HAD BEEN MISQUOTED AND THAT HIS POSITION AGAINST MILITARY AID TO RHODESIA WAS ON PUBLIC RECORD.

4. VORSTER SAID HE KNOWS THAT UNITED STATES WOULD NOT INTERVENTE MILITARILY TO SAVE EITHER RHODESIA OR SOUTH AFRICA FROM COMMUNIST AGGRESSION. HE SAID THAT HE REGARDS UNITED STATES AS LEADER OF FREE WORLD ALTHOUGH HE REALIZES THAT SOUTH AFRICA IS QUOTE ON ITS OWN UNQUOTE. I REPLIED THAT I SEE SEVERAL WAYS IN WHICH SAG COULD GREATLY INCREASE GOOD WILL OF WORLD COMMUNITY. ONE OF THESE IS RATIFICATION OF NPT. VORSTER REPLIED THAT HE COMPLETELY SKEPTICAL ABOUT INCREASING GOOD WILL OF WORLD COMMUNITY BUT THAT NPT IS UNDER REVIEW BY SAG, AND HE DID NOT KNOW WHAT DECISION WOULD BE.

5. I SAID THAT I MYSELF HAD BEEN SKEPTICAL ABOUT CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE BEFORE I WENT TO NAMIBIA BUT THAT I HAVE NOW CONCLUDED THAT THIS THE ONLY PRACTICAL POLITICAL FRAMEWORK FOR RESOLVING PROBLEM. THIS EVOKED THE ONLY GLIMMER OF POSITIVE RESPONSE FROM VORSTER OF OUR MEETING. I URGED HIM TO SET EARLY DATE FOR INDEPENDENCE, TO BROADEN BASE OF CONFERENCE BY ADMITTING PARTIES SUCH AS SWAPO, AND TO PERMIT A UN PRESENCE. VORSTER REPLIED THAT HE HAD DELEGATED ALL SUCH DECISIONS AS THESE TO THE CONFERENCE AND HE WOULD ACCEPT WHATEVER THEY DECIDED. HE SAID THAT IF IT UP TO HIM WHETHER TO ADMIT SWAPO OR NOT, HE WOULD LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NOT. BUT, HE SAID, IF CONFERENCE DECIDED TO DO IT, HE WOULD NOT INTERFERE. HE SAID I COULD QUOTE HIM ON ANYTHING HE HAD SAID.

6. I SUGGEST THAT STATE DEPARTMENT RECONSIDER POSITION OF NOT PERMITTING AMBASSADORS OR HIGH LEVEL DEPT OFFICIALS FROM GOING TO SWA TO DEMONSTRATE ILLEGALITY OF SA PRESENCE THERE. BY NOW TAKING A POSITIVE CONSTRUCTIVE AND LEADERSHIP ROLE IN HELPING TO RESOLVE ISSUE THAT NOW STANDS AS JUST ONE MORE BARRIER TO US AND OTHER

NATIONS NORMALIZING RELATIONS WITH SA. IT IS MY PERSONAL VIEW THAT  
ALL WE WOULD BE DOING IS HELPING IMPLEMENT UN RESOLUTIONS WE  
VOTED FOR.  
JOHNSON

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 24 APR 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ElyME  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976JOHANN00574  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760156-0325  
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**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Line Count:** 119  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION H  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ElyME  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 05 MAR 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <05 MAR 2004 by GarlanWA>; APPROVED <10 SEP 2004 by ElyME>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CODEL PERCY MEETING WITH VORSTER  
**TAGS:** OREP, (PERCY, CHARLES H)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006